

MGF 006-82

5 April 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR : Director, FBIS  
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group  
SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Gulf Bureau--March 1982

## I. GENERAL

The bureau broke through the 300,000-word barrier for the first time when it filed 322,000 words of publishable material in March in addition to 118,000 non-publishable words. The increase cannot be pin-pointed to any particular source, but is rather the result of increased production from all sections.

Earlier this year we tried experimenting with a larger long-wire antenna erected at the U.S. Navy station here. In addition, we conducted a reception survey at the home of one of our Arabic monitors in West Rifa, a bedroom community a few miles south of Manama. In this latter check we used a small whip antenna and a standard Watkins-Johnson receiver. Reception at the Navy station, unfortunately, was inferior to reception at the bureau. However, reception at the West Rifa site was marginally better on certain frequencies, but as yet no firm conclusions can be drawn. We plan to continue checks at the West Rifa site after I have had an opportunity to discuss some technical questions with the engineering staff during the bureau chiefs conference.

The Iranian military offensive late in the month prompted intense embassy interest in Baghdad and Tehran reporting on the battles. For several days we hand-carried the latest reports to the embassy for use by the Ambassador and other embassy officers.

The trial of 73 defendants charged with conspiring to topple the Bahraini Government got underway during the month and was then promptly adjourned to give defense attorneys more time to prepare their case. It is suspected that when the trial does resume it will be behind closed doors.

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The contradictions so common to Arab rhetoric about Arab Unity were never so apparent as when at mid-month the Bahraini Government officially commissioned a new coast guard patrol boat named "Hawar." Hawar is the name of an island a few miles off the coast of Qatar, which is claimed by both Qatar and Bahrain. The Qatari reaction was swift and the language used compared favorably with the vitriolic rhetoric usually reserved for Israel. A joint Qatari-Bahraini statement a few days later praised fraternal Arab brotherhood and pledged both countries to seek a harmonious solution to the Hawar island dispute, a dispute now many years old.

A milestone of sorts was reached early in the month when [redacted] departed PCS to headquarters. Aside from the 1980 departure of the first bureau chief, [redacted] departure was the first Gulf bureau PCS for a desk level editor. TDY replacement editor [redacted] arrived shortly after [redacted] departure and made a rapid transition to the role of field editor. PCS'er [redacted] arrived later in the month and is rapidly fitting in very nicely. ✓  
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## II. OPERATIONS

### A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. Our twice weekly coverage of Kabul Domestic Service broadcasts in support of the BBC became a full-time operation on 9 March when the BBC's sole remaining Afghani monitor suddenly became ill. The team was already one monitor short due to leave taking. We assumed full coverage of Kabul Pashto/Dari broadcasts through 19 March. Coincidentally, this period included the PDPA National Conference in Kabul at which Babrak Karmal spoke. This resulted in a 14-take text of his remarks from very poor reception. It was a useful and instructive exercise for our Pashto/Dari monitors who do not often have this sort of opportunity to translate from these languages.

2. A week-long study of Saudi Arabian television transmissions was carried out during the month. For a 7-day period we monitored the TV-programming from sign-on to sign-off. Daily FYI's with our observations on program content were filed to FCS and AG.

3. With the concurrence of FCS and the BBC, the bureau assumed full coverage of all Omani radio broadcasts. In addition to the Salalah 0700 GMT broadcast, we have added the Muscat 1300, 1600 and 1700 GMT programs. These latter broadcasts had previously been covered by the BBC's East Africa Unit on an irregular basis. We are happy to have this new coverage inasmuch as it contributes to further rationalization of Gulf media coverage.

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4. An Arabic-language transmission beamed by the Iranian news agency IRNA 1730-1900 GMT daily has been added to coverage. While the transmission carries many of the news reports carried by the IRNA English transmissions, a number of original items have appeared and have been filed.

5. Following notification by London bureau that Soviet leader Brezhnev was visiting Tashkent to preside over the awarding of the Order of Lenin to the Uzbek SSR, the bureau made backstop recordings of Tashkent Uzbek and Russian broadcasts. Moscow radio provided the bulk of the coverage of Brezhnev's remarks and activities, but we were also able to file a few reports from the Tashkent newscasts. Reports on Brezhnev's health in early April indicate that he may have suffered a stroke on the plane returning him to Moscow from Tashkent. In view of the reports on the delicate state of his health, it is conceivable that this visit to Tashkent may be Brezhnev's last public appearance outside of Moscow.

6. Initial cruising of Jidda radio's new Turkmen service and the Voice of Turkey's Azeri programs was carried out during the month. Reception of both services was adequate. We will continue to sample periodically.

### III. ADMINISTRATION

#### A. Personnel

Bureau editor [redacted] departed on 3 March PCS to headquarters. TDY editor [redacted] arrived 9 March to assist until late June and [redacted] arrived on PCS 23 March as [redacted] official replacement.

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Bureau Chief

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Attachment A

ENGINEERING REPORT--GULF BUREAU MONTHLY REPORT FOR MARCH 1982

Equipment received: Teletype set ASR/W keyboard. Extel  
model B-315-PS. sn 0242535.

Equipment transferred: None.

Projects: Completed installation of antenna  
matrix system. Presently thirteen  
receivers are connected to eight  
different antennas.

Install whip antenna model AVW-2/E  
at employees house for cruising  
effort.

## GULF BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR MARCH 1982

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	322,490
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	118,410
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	747

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	12,280 mins.	7,560 mins.	167 issues
III. <u>OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:</u> (publishable words per month)			

AFGHANISTAN

Kabul in English to South Asia	1,160
Kabul in Urdu to South Asia	3,290
Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto	5,510
Kabul Domestic Service in Dari	14,430

BAHRAIN

Manama Domestic Service in Arabic	5,710	
Manama Domestic Service in English	0	
Manama Domestic Television Service in Arabic	0	
Manama WAKH in Arabic		29,080
Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in English		0
Manama AKBAR AL-KHALIJ in Arabic		2,180
Manama AL-ADWA in Arabic		0
Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English		230
Manama GULF MIRROR in English		0

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Manama SADA AL-USBU in Arabic			690

CLANDESTINE

(Clandestine) Voice of Lebanese Armenians in Armenian	8,390
(Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Azeri to Iran	0
(Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran	11,600
(Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran	4,030
(Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian	3,620
(Clandestine) Ahvaz Voice of Al-Qadisiyah in Arabic	0
(Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Islamic Revolution in Arabic	780

IRAN

Tehran International Service in Arabic	9,090
Tehran International Service in Russian	0
Tehran International Service in Turkish	13,380
Tehran International Service in Urdu	1,430
Zahedan International Service in Urdu	0
Tehran Domestic Service in Persian	2,570
Abadan Domestic Television Service in Persian	0
Tehran Domestic Television Service in Persian	0
Tehran International Service in Pashto	0
Abadan NIOC Radio in Arabic	1,880
Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian	760

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian	1,630		
Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian	2,950		
Tehran IRNA in English		500	
Tehran IRNA in Arabic		1,410	
Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian	0		
Tehran Jomhuri-Ye Eslami in Persian			4,120
Tehran Ettela'at in Persian			2,870
Tehran Keyhan in Persian			2,380

IRAQ

Baghdad International Service in Azeri	2,280		
Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic	630		

KUWAIT

Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic			9,740
Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic			1,170
Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic			1,170
Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English			1,580
Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic			24,750

OMAN

Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic	3,750		
Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic	190		
Muscat TIMES OF OMAN in English			0

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
<u>PAKISTAN</u>			
Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu	0		
Karachi DAWN in English			4,260
Karachi JANG in Urdu			0
Karachi JASARAT in Urdu			3,550
Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu			1,180
Lahore NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu			2,910
<u>QATAR</u>			
Doha Domestic Service in Arabic	2,310		
Doha QNA in Arabic		21,020	
Doha AR-RAYAH in Arabic			7,290
<u>SAUDI ARABIA</u>			
Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic	500		
Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic	5,040		
Riyadh Domestic Television Service in English	0		
Ad-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic			4,090
Jidda AL-BILAD in Arabic			2,620
Jidda AL-MADINAH in Arabic			9,690
Jidda International Service in Turkmen	680		
<u>UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS</u>			
Moscow in Dari to Afghanistan	450		
Moscow in Persian to Iran	6,780		
Baku International Service in Azeri	2,890		



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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Tashkent International Service in Uzbek	8,020		
Yerevan International Service in Armenian	2,810		
Ashkabad Domestic Service in Russian	4,820		
Baku Domestic Service in Russian	0		
Tashkent Domestic Service in Russian	2,750		
Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian	2,000		
Dushanbe Domestic Service in Russian	3,120		
Tashkent International Service in Uighur	4,410		
 <u>UNITED ARAB EMIRATES</u>			
Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic	9,130		
Dubayy Domestic Service in Arabic	230		
Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic		5,190	
Abu Dhabi AL-FAJR in Arabic			490
Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic			6,650
Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I in Arabic			0
Ash-Sharifiyah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic			8,300
Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic			3,810
Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English			4,570